

March 15, 2010

Dear Parents,

I want to update you regarding the status of the City of Reno's Verdi Elementary School Sierra Kids before and after school program. As you are aware, the City of Reno, as have other governmental agencies has experienced significant budget shortfalls over the past 2-3 years, due to a downturn in the economy. Based on these financial challenges, all City departments have been asked to evaluate their services and identify savings, wherever possible.

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department has been asked to identify savings in its budget for this fiscal year, which ends on June 30, 2010. The total amount that the Department has had to reduce its budget is almost \$700,000.


The Verdi Elementary School Sierra Kids before and after school program has not been identified for closure for the remainder of this year's schedule. The hours and programming will remain the same through June 30, 2010. However, the city-wide projected budget deficit is anticipated to continue into next fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2010. Depending upon many factors, this deficit may impact the Department's ability to fund the continuance of the Verdi Elementary School Sierra Kids before and after school program beginning in Fall 2010.

City Council will be reviewing the proposed fiscal year 2010-2011 budget in May 2010 at its public budget hearings where they will discuss the amount of budget reductions needed to balance the city-wide budget. This is when the decision regarding the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department's budget will be determined.

If City Council determines that the Verdi Elementary School Sierra Kids before and after school program will not be offered in the Fall of 2010, the Youth and Senior Services Division will work with families to attempt to identify alternative care opportunities.

If you have any questions, please contact the Youth and Senior Services Division Office at 775-334-4280.

Sincerely,



Darryl Feemster

Youth and Senior Division Manager
City of Reno Parks, Recreation & Community Services

cc: Julee Conway, Director, Parks, Recreation and Community Services
Trish Gerbo, Principal, Verdi Elementary School
Parents of all youth enrolled in Verdi Sierra Kids Program